



Testimony offered on behalf of:
MARYLAND MORTGAGE BANKERS & BROKERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

IN SUPPORT OF:
**HB 809 – Property Tax Exemption – Disabled Veteran, Active Duty, and
Surviving Spouse – Application Process**

Ways and Means Committee
Hearing – 02/22 – 1:00PM

The members of the Maryland Mortgage Bankers and Brokers Association, Inc. (“MMBBA”) SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 809.

100% Disabled Veterans are exempt from real estate taxes in Maryland. They cannot apply for this exemption until after they own their home. While this might initially make sense, this fact requires Mortgage Lenders to count real estate taxes against these Veterans when qualifying, impacting their buying power by ten’s if not hundreds of thousands of dollars. It also forces Lenders to collect thousands of dollars in tax escrows at closing. While they eventually get this money back, a loss of liquidity like this is rarely felt harder than during a move and purchase of a new home.

HB809 solves both of these problems at no additional cost to the State, and no additional logistical burden by allowing Veterans to apply for this exemption prior to closing on their home and providing the Lender evidence of their exemption.

For the reasons above, the members of the Maryland Mortgage Bankers and Brokers Association, Inc. urge a **FAVORABLE REPORT on House Bill 809.**

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